

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 05766 030757Z

14-12

ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 VO-03 SCA-01

AID-05 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ARA-06 CIAE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 INSE-00 USIE-00 /080 W
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O 030508Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

INFO DOD WASHDC IMMEDIATE

JCS IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

CINCPACFLT IMMEDIATE

CINCPACREPPHIL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 5766

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: AMER, TW, UN, SREF, RP

SUBJ: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES NOT LIFTED BY USA

1. EMBASSY HAS NOTIFIED PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, WHICH IN TURN HAS ALERTED ITS DISASTER CENTER, THAT SEVERAL FOREIGN FLAG VESSELS NOT UNDER U.S. CONTROL WILL BE ARRIVING IN MANILA WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS CARRYING REFUGEES FROM VIETNAM, INCLUDING PHILIPPINE NATIONALS. THESE VESSELS INCLUDE ONE OF VIETNAM REGISTRY, ONE DANISH, ONE PANAMANIAN.

2. UNDER MILITARY BASES AGREEMENT, NONE OF THESE VESSELS HAS AUTHORITY ENTER SUBIC AND WE HAVE NOT RPT NOT REQUESTED EXEMPTION. IT IS ALSO OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT REFUGEES LIFTED BY VESSELS NOT UNDER U.S. CONTROL ARE NOT U.S. RESPONSIBILITY.

3. WHILE ONE SECTOR OF PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING
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MILITARY, WILL PROBABLY RESPOND TO THIS CHALLENGE WITH

SYMPATHY AND RELATIVE COMPETENCE, ANOTHER SECTOR, HEADED BY DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WILL ATTEMPT TO AVOID PROBLEM ALTOGETHER. ISSUE WILL DOUBTLESS HAVE TO BE SETTLED BY MARCOS, WHO WILL PROBABLY TURN TO US AND ASK THAT WE ACCEPT THESE REFUGEES (NUMBERING ABOUT 5,000-6,000) IN MAIN-STREAM OF THOSE BEING PROCESSED THROUGH GUAM.

4. THIS MAY BE RATHER HARSH AS FAR AS UNCERTAINTY WHICH IT WILL VISIT UPON VIETNAM REFUGEES, BUT WE ARE SATISFIED THAT, DURING PERIOD THEY ARE STRANDED IN MANILA BAY, GOP WILL EXTEND APPROPRIATE HUMANITARIAN CARE AND THEY MAY BE JUST AS WELL OFF AS THEY WOULD BE IN ONE OF OUR TENT CITIES.

5. IF WASHINGTON HAS ANY GUIDANCE ON THIS PROBLEM, PLEASE PROVIDE SOONEST.

SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: RowellE0
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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